

MILKMAID
XMAS
COMPETITION

The China Mail.

ESTABLISHED 1845

NOTES ON THE
LIFE OF THE
AND YOUR OWN
By Rev. S. A.
HUNTER, M.A.
To be had at the
China Mail Office
Part I. Part II. Part III. Part IV.
Part V. Part VI. Part VII. Part VIII.

No. 15,778.

號六廿月一十年三十一百九千一英

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1913.

星島晚報

PRICE, \$3.00 Per Month

VITAFER.

The Greatest of the Tonic Foods.

VITAFER is the essence of finest British milk, sterilized—concentrated and granulated—combined with the Glycero-phosphates of Sodium, Calcium, and Magnesium.

Vitafér is rich in body-building and nerve-restoring elements, the milk constituents form flesh and muscle, whilst the Glycero-phosphates revitalize the nerves and brain. This latter effect is due to Organic Phosphorus being present in the food in the particular form in which it occurs in the human body.

Vitafér is a genuine restorative, and not a mere transitory stimulant.

Sole Agents—

A. S. WATSON & Co., Ltd.

UMEMOTO.

PROFESSIONAL TATTOOER.

Orders attended to at the residence of Customers, if desired.

Finest work done by hand only.

No. 12, Queen's Road East, Hongkong, Oct. 3, 1913.

THE JEALOUS JAPANESE.

Commentary on the Commercial Code of Japan. By J. E. DE BECKER. Vol. I. (Butterworth and Co.)

However much the Japanese may have learnt and copied from occidental civilisation, there is one important item which they have certainly not learnt, nor seem disposed to copy, and that is to place the stranger within their gates upon a commercial and financial equality with the native. The enterprising foreigner in Japan suffers under an interminable catalogue of vexatious restrictions and prohibitions. He cannot own land as an individual, and although there is a law ostensibly granting that privilege, its provisions are unsatisfactory and delusive. Foreigners cannot own ships flying the Japanese national flag; they cannot become partners with unlimited liability nor directors of joint stock companies owning Japanese ships; they cannot be shareholders in national banks; they cannot, as individuals, engage in mining, nor become members, shareholders, or brokers of the various exchanges and chambers of commerce. Foreigners appearing as plaintiffs must furnish security for costs; they cannot hold any public office nor become members of the Japanese Bar, and so on. M. de Becker, who is a most careful and of the Swiss Legation in Tokyo, has brought together in this work—which will probably extend to three volumes—a terrifying mass of complicated detail affecting the foreigner who aspires to do business in or with Japan. Whilst his work is quite a monument of learning and industrious research, we frankly do not envy anyone who may unfortunately be compelled to seek enlightenment from its pages. However, works of this kind are necessary and extremely useful, and those who devote their time and labour to writing them deserve the gratitude of their fellow-men.—London "Standard."

The following is in a financial contemporary:—"Although coconut plantations are very much in the air just now, as yet no one appears to be particularly enthusiastic regarding plantation prospects of the useful product of Nature so prominent on village greens on Bank Holidays. The fact is that little appears to be known about the need by Europeans, they having been the perquisite of the natives from time immemorial, and, indeed, their staple support, the husks of the nuts making ropes and the leaves thatch; the milk providing drink and the kernels food. The great point for the investor is, 'Never mind about all milky,' what we want is the oil in copra. And nobody appears to be sure at what period of its life a coconut tree yields fruit containing the largest quantity of oil, opinions ranging from seven to twenty years. It seems to be a hard nut to crack, and meanwhile the public is coconut shy."

CHAMBERLAIN'S COUGH REMEDY.

WHEN you have a bad cold you want a remedy that will not only give relief, but effect a prompt and permanent cure, and that is pleasant to take. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy meets all these requirements. It acts on nature's plan, soothes the inflamed membrane, opens the passages and restores the system to a healthy condition. It is a household remedy, and is always on hand. For sale by all druggists.

BUSINESS NOTICES.

\$250 XMAS COMPETITION.

Nestlé & Anglo-Swiss Condensed Milk Co. are offering a prize of the value of \$250, for the best advertisement of their famous Products.

MILK, CREAM & CHOCOLATES.

Details are too long to insert here, but on every Wednesday an inset will be included with this paper, giving full particulars.

Full instructions may also be obtained from any of the following Firms:—

China Mail.
Hongkong Telegraph.
Lane, Crawford & Co.
Moutrie & Co., Ltd.
Gaupp & Co.
Wang King.

South China Morning Post.
Hongkong Daily Press.
Weismann, Ltd.
Kelly & Walsh, Ltd.
A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd.
Wm. Powell, Ltd.
Kruso & Co.

The Competition closes 20th December, 1913.

YOU CAN WIN THIS PRIZE!

HOTELS

STATION HOTEL

NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON.

ELECTRIC LIGHT AND FANS. Bath-room to each Room.

Cold and Hot Water throughout.

PRIVATE AND PUBLIC BATHS.

BILLIARD ROOM.

Private Dining Room.

EXCELLENT CUISINE.

For Particulars apply to

THE MANAGER.

Tel. No. K129. Tel. Address "STATION."

Hongkong, Feb. 2, 1913.

KING EDWARD HOTEL

Central Location.

A. L. ELECTRIC TRAM PASS ENTRANCE.

Electric Lifts, Fans and Lighting.

European Bath and Sanitary Fittings.

Hot and Cold Water System throughout.

Best of Food and Service.

TELEPHONE 573. R. H. NORRIS, Manager.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: "KINGED."

KINGSCLERE HOTEL

HONGKONG.

UNRIVALLED position in the Hill district, overlooking the Botanical Gardens and facing the Harbour.

Numerous quiet Suites with luxuriously fitted Bathrooms, Telephones and Electric Fans.

Telephones in Bedrooms and Sitting-room throughout.

Telephone No. 1125.

Cable Address: "Kingsclere."

A.B.C. Code 14th Ed.

Hongkong, September 1, 1905.

WYNDHAM HOTEL

29 WYNDHAM (FLOWER) STREET.

LOCATION good for Hillside Society and ONLY TWO MINUTES' WALK FROM BUSINESS CENTRE.

Families, Residents and Tourists made thoroughly comfortable.

Terms Moderate.

Box of Free-Press Lamps.

Under the Franchise Supervision of the Proprietors.

M. S. HOY.

BRANDSIDE PRIVATE HOTEL

STANDING on the corner of the main road and the Victoria Road, the hotel is a most desirable place for the tourist and the business man.

Any first-class business or pleasure trip can be made most comfortably and conveniently from this hotel.

Rooms are well ventilated and the food is of the highest quality.

For particulars apply to the Proprietors.

Proprietors: Mr. and Mrs. J. H. H. H.

Address: Brandside, Victoria Road, Hongkong.

Telephone: 1125.

Cable Address: "Brandside."



Sanitary Board Office.

Hongkong.

OWNERS OF DOMESTIC BUILDINGS

TAKE NOTICE that under No. 6 of DOMESTIC LEASING AND VENTILATION BYELAWS (as amended), every domestic building or part of such building within the EASTERN Division of the City of Victoria, occupied by Members of more than one family, except those within the European Reservation or in Kowloon South of Austin Road or those parts of a domestic building used as a Shop, Office or Godown, must be CLEANSED and LIMEWASHED THROUGHOUT by the owners during the months of October and November.

N.B.—The word "throughout" used in this notice means that the houses should be lime-washed in respect of all the Walls of each Room, all Cupboards, Partitions, Stair-Casings and Stair Linings, all Ceilings and the Undersides of Roofs in Main Buildings, Offices and Servants' Quarters and inclusive of Verandahs.

The Backyard must have its Containing Walls lime-washed up to the level of First Floor.

Carved, Painted or Polished Woodwork in good condition, however, need not be lime-washed, but must be Cleaned.

The EASTERN Division of the City is bounded on the West by Gilman Street and Peel Street, Kowloon is divided into the Eastern and Western divisions by Nathan Road and a straight line drawn from the North through the Victoria service reservoir to the Northern boundary of Kowloon.

W. BOWEN-BOWLANDS, Secretary.

Hongkong, Nov. 24, 1913.

WHO'S WHO IN JAPAN

Edited and published by S. KUNITA.

The first (1913) edition already issued.

Biographies of over 6,000 people who are well-known in society and of several hundred foreigners associated with Japan appear in the book. Quite new materials and accurate sketches, both being utterly free from prejudice.

Many portraits are inserted. The book contains over 1,400.

The price is 6 (12/-) or 83 per copy. Orders for the book should be accompanied by payment.

Subscribers for the second annual edition of "Who's Who in Japan" will be allowed a reduction of one yen.

The registered postage is 15 sen to Korea and China 40 sen and to Europe & America 70 sen or 35 cents.

It is a Good Advertising Medium.

Many influential papers of the world noticed this work in the highest terms.

For example, The Daily Mail says:—"Yet another 'Who's Who' and this time from Japan! The reader is apt at first to regard it as a curiosity, as a sign that the East has now become Western practically almost to the last detail. But 'Who's Who in Japan' is far more than a curiosity; it is a very sound and useful reference book. It is printed in English and contains brief biographies, or the accepted model of prominent men in Japan. Mr. Kunita is a skilful editor and has done his work well."

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BUSINESS NOTICES.

BALL SEASON.

FAIRALL & CO.

Are showing everything suitable for Evening Wear.

A Splendid assortment of, Lace, Ninon and Beaded Tunics in all shades. Gloves, Shoes, Ribbons, Laces, etc. Ornaments for the Hair in great variety.

Hongkong, Nov. 25, 1913.

We have received instructions to sell immediately at

PRICES BELOW FACTORY COST

203 GENTLEMEN'S READY TO WEAR

TWEED SUITS

REASONABLE WEIGHTS, ENGLISH GOODS.

FIRST CLASS CUT AND FINISH

PRICE FROM \$9.50 TO \$18.00

CALL AND INSPECT THEM

H. STEPHENS & Co.

16-22, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

MEE CHEUNG ART PHOTOGRAPHER.

CHILDREN'S PHOTOS

A

Speciality.

NOTE ADDRESS: ICE HOUSE, HONGKONG.

OUR BREAD

PERFECTION.

CAKES & PASTRY

PAR EXCELLENCE

TIFFINS, DINNERS & REFRESHMENTS THE BEST.

ALEXANDRA CAFE CO.

Hongkong, April 7, 1913.

THE HONGKONG HOTEL.

THOROUGHLY UP TO DATE WITH EVERY MODERN LUXURY

A LA CARTE GRILL ROOM

J. H. TAGOART, Manager.

PEARL HOTEL

ADAMANTLY SITUATED AT VICTORIA GAP

Adjoining the Tramway Terminus, 1,400 feet above Sea Level.

A FIRST-CLASS FAMILY, RESIDENTIAL AND TOURIST HOTEL.

Telephones on all floors. First-class Dining, Lounge, Smoking and Ladies Rooms.

Roof Garden.

Terms:—From \$5 per day—Max.

Telephone Add: "Pearl."

P.O. REGISTERED.

PEARL PRIVATE HOTEL

47 MOUNTAIN VIEW

Best position in Colony.

1,600 feet above sea level.

Cable Tram 7 minutes.

Mrs. Sylvia Proprietress.

Hongkong, August 18, 1913.

GRAND HOTEL

NOTED FOR THE BEST FOOD, REFRESHMENTS, ACCOMMODATION AND CLEANLINESS

OUR OWN EUROPEAN SUPERVISOR

REPAIRING WORKS AND PAINTING

Y. REICHMANN, Manager.

THE GRAND CARLTON HOTEL

An Ideal Family Hotel, with 1,000 Rooms, 50 Bathrooms, 50 Billiard Rooms, 50 Smoking Rooms, 50 Reading Rooms, 50 Writing Rooms, 50 Dressing Rooms, 50 Bathing Rooms, 50 Shower Rooms, 50 Toilets, 50 Hairdressing Rooms, 50 Barber Rooms, 50 Tailor Rooms, 50 Shoemaker Rooms, 50 Hat Rooms, 50 Fur Rooms, 50 Linen Rooms, 50 Laundry Rooms, 50 Storage Rooms, 50 Lockers, 50 Trunks, 50 Boxes, 50 Cases, 50 Bags, 50 Portmanteaus, 50 Trunks, 50 Boxes, 50 Cases, 50 Bags, 50 Portmanteaus.

FIRST CLASS IN EVERY RESPECT. MODERN EQUIPMENT AND FURNITURE.

Notes for the first-class guests, and for the first-class guests.

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BUSINESS NOTICES.

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT CO. LD.

Portland Cement

In Casks of 47½ lb. net.

In Bags of 50 lb. net.

Shewan, Tomes & Co.

GENERAL MANAGERS.

WARD OFF THE COUGH

Cruickshank's Cough Balsam.

Soothes the inflamed lungs and bronchial tubes, cures the cough and gives strength against future attacks.

\$1.00 per bottle.

Prepared only by

VICTORIA DISPENSARY.

Queen's Road Central.

WEISMANN'S

FOR BREAD

WEISMANN'S

FOR CAKES

WEISMANN'S

FOR CHOCOLATES

Hongkong, Nov. 15, 1913.

SHOPPING MADE EASY.

THE STORE FOR EVERYONE

THE QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL CO.

AND GENERAL MERCHANTS.

UNIVERSAL PROVIDERS.

ONE OF OUR SPECIALITIES:

HIGH CLASS TAILORS & EXPERIENCED CUTTERS.

PERFECT FIT GUARANTEED.

THE ONE PRICE STORE.

High Standard of Quality.

Cheapest Store in the East.

Queen's Road Central: The Old Supreme Court. Telephone 1222.

Hongkong, June 15, 1913.



[illegible]

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.

CIGAR MERCHANTS AND TOBACCONISTS.

TOBACCOS.

[SPECIAL:—John Cotton's Mixture.
Mild, Medium and Full, \$1.00 per 1 lb. tin.]Carreras Claven Mixture, Black Cat Mixture,
Garlick Mixture, Ardath & State Express Mixture,
etc., etc., etc.,

HIGH CLASS CIGARS.

MANILA:—Lolitas, Mandarins, El Tamarindo,
Infumables, Perfectos, Estrellas, Excelentes &c.
Dutch, Havana, German Cigars, Martin's Treemies.

CIGARETTES.

Virginian, Egyptian, Turkish—all well-known brands
kept in stock.

PRICES MODERATE.

A
VICTOR-VICTROLAIS WITHIN THE MEANS
OF ALL.

Price from \$35.

NONE GENUINE
WITHOUT THE DOG MARK.
SEE THAT YOU GET IT.

EXCLUSIVE DISTRIBUTORS.

MOUTRIE'S

WM. POWELL,
LTD.

TELEPHONE 348.

HATTERS

Sole Distributors
of
GLYNS HATSin
many different
Shapes & StylesWM. POWELL,
LTD.

SOLE AGENTS

Glyns, 44 old Bond St.

THE EDWARD DISPENSARY

G. FARMING & Co., Ltd.

Chemist and Dispenser

GREAT REDUCTIONS IN

PRICES

SPECIAL LOW PRICES ON

ALL THE LATEST

FASHIONABLE

HATS AND

ACCESSORIES

AT THE EDWARD DISPENSARY

44, OLD BOND STREET

LONDON, E.C.4

W. & A. G. FARMING & CO., LTD.

LONDON, E.C.4

BIRTH.

AUSTIN.—At 53 The Park, on the 28th

inst., to Mr and Mrs A. R. Austin, a son,

MEMO. FOR TO-MORROW.

11 a.m.—Auction of Furniture at No. 8

Ripon Terrace.

3 p.m.—Auction of a.s. "Atlantic"

at Messrs. Hughes and Hough's Sales

Rooms.

5 p.m.—Opening of St. Andrew's Church

Hall, Kowloon.

General Memoranda.

FRIDAY, November 28.—

10.30 a.m.—Auction of Furniture at

"Highland," Kinberley Road, Kow-

loon.

11 a.m.—Auction of Miscellaneous Stock

at Messrs. Hughes and Hough's Sales

Rooms.

5.30 p.m.—Auction of Furniture at No.

4 Durban Villas, Kowloon.

2.30 p.m.—Auction of Furniture at 14

Dea Vaux Road, Central, (top floor).

SATURDAY, November 29.—

11 a.m.—Auction of Furniture at 9

Bunbury Buildings Kowloon.

2.30 p.m.—Auction of Furniture at

Messrs. Hughes & Hough's Sales

Rooms.

4 p.m.—Auction of Driven Thread Work

at Messrs. Hughes & Hough's Sales

Rooms.

MONDAY, December 1.—

3 p.m.—Auction of Two Lots of Crown

Land at Ho Mun Tin, by Public

Works Department.

TUESDAY, December 2.—

5 p.m.—Auction of Postage Stamps

at Mr. Geo. P. Lammer's Sales

Rooms.

RACE SUICIDE AND RACIAL

STAMINA.

THAT the birth-rate is now decreasing

in every civilized country seems to

be an acknowledged fact. It is worry-

ing experts of all varieties, especially

in France—a country where the

phenomenon is especially noticeable.

In America (says the Literary Digest,

New York) we even contemplated,

by exemptions in our income-tax, a

prize for the possession of offspring

but later this feature was eliminated.

Now comes Prof. Karl Pearson, the

English statistician, who informs us

that falling birth-rate is merely

nature's way of protecting us against

the coming into the world of feeble

children. We carefully preserve, by

our modern customs, parents who

would have been allowed to die off

a hundred years ago. It is well, per-

haps, that we do so, but it is also

well that they do not see fit, or are

not able, to rear large families to

which their defects are transmitted.

The remedy for our trouble is not

even, he thinks, to further perfect

methods of caring for infants, but to

increase the strength of the parents.

His motto would be "Strengthen the

Mothers, rather than "Save the

feeding and the many other causes, which medical men are in the habit of regarding as certain factors of infant mortality have, on the whole, less danger to the community than is to be found in a defective temperamental parent vitiated by disease or by hereditary enfeeblement. This is a deduction which should be pressed home. In every civilized country the birth-rate is falling; that fact alone is not sufficient to cause any uneasiness to those who rightly understand the difference between civilization and savagery in regard to this aspect of motherhood. With the economic factors to be considered, it is easy to see that the child-bearing period of women in civilized communities is steadily contracting, and that the physical enfeeblement of women exposed to the stress and strain of modern life must inevitably lead to the physical deterioration of subsequent generations unless something more than at present is done for the benefit of the coming race. That being the case, the real question at issue is not whether the birth-rate is declining. With these factors present it is inevitable, and indeed expedient, that the birth-rate should decline; for no honest parent can afford to bring into the world children whom he cannot fit with a strong constitution and endow with that physical and social means of safeguarding their position when they are grown up. On the contrary, the question concerns not the number of births, but the value of the births recorded. A declining infant mortality must ensure that a larger number of children will reach the age of puberty; the prophylactic, ultra-humanitarian measures of to-day make it possible for the weakest and unfittest to survive along with the strongest and best. Indeed, the tendency is to safeguard the interests of the former at the expense of those of the latter, a tendency which is bound ultimately to affect the race detrimentally.

"The whole matter of the birth-rate in reference to the value of the births and the status of the community can not be settled on statistical grounds alone. Nevertheless, we are duty bound to Professor Pearson for drawing attention to certain outstanding facts which medical men are apt to overlook. Such semi-popular lectures should make the nation alive to the facts that ought never to be forgotten, but which are, unfortunately, remembered by comparatively few public men. One of these facts is the desirability of training the rising generation so as to perfect its physique and enhance its means of resistance to factors that act adversely upon less resistant organisms. This fact should be acknowledged by every public man, and it is a great pity that the unfortunate bogey of alleged 'militarism' still interferes with the due appreciation of the benefits to be derived from such physical and early training as military discipline entails. The recent pronouncement that such training will be allowed in the public elementary schools is a deplorable testimony to the apathy and shortsightedness of a nation that still regards party politics as of far more importance than a healthy birth-rate. When Professor Pearson again lectures on the subject we commend him to pay some attention to the position of the father. An investigation into the antecedents and environmental conditions of the father should prove interesting, and we venture, to think that some of the results to be obtained from such a study ought to be of decided value to the community."

Mr. Danman Fuller, F.R.O.S., I.R.A.M., presented an interesting programme at the organ recital given at the Cathedral last evening, and it was listened to with evident appreciation by a large congregation. Mr. Fuller had the assistance of Mr. G. Verma, violinist, and Mr. H. I. Jones, vocalist. Mr. Fuller's organ was played by Mr. Jones (Bach), and Mr. Jones sang "The Lord's Prayer" (Bach) and "The Lord's Prayer" (Bach).

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NEWS OF THE DAY.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

R. M. Shiping and New Castle and the Japanese Man-of-war Takanami arrived here this morning.

Mr. Resault, the newly appointed French Ambassador to Tokyo, is leaving France this month for Japan.

Mr. Ann-trong, of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, has informed the police that on the 24th or 25th instant a Barbary rickshaw was at ten from his desk in the office.

In a village quarrel over water for irrigation purposes, a man 56 years of age living at Woonkwai village received a nail gun on the head. He was sent to hospital in Hongkong by the police.

Sympathy will be extended to Mr. M. Dalrymple, who is leaving for home to-day on sick leave on account of a nervous breakdown. He was recently promoted to an Inspectorship of Schools from Queen's College.

The Dockyard Recreation Club held a Drive in the Dockyard last night only a small attendance being present. The Rev. C. A. C. Morison presented the prizes to—Ladies, Mrs. Cousins; 2nd, Mrs. Williams; 3rd, Mrs. Cousins; 4th, Mrs. Cousins; 5th, Mrs. Cousins; 6th, Mrs. Cousins; 7th, Mrs. Cousins; 8th, Mrs. Cousins; 9th, Mrs. Cousins; 10th, Mrs. Cousins.

The P. and O. S. S. Nubia had to receive attention from Taikeo Dockyard as the result of an accident at Shanghai. Just previous to leaving for Hongkong she was fouled by the M. S. steamer Amore and part of her port side rail was carried away. She will leave on schedule time to-morrow.

Messrs. Metchers and Co. have received a wireless message through the Captain of the T. S. M. S. Prince Eitel Friedrich from the T. S. M. S. Princess Alice, due here from Singapore, that this steamer will arrive here on Thursday, the 27th inst., at 5 p.m., instead of as previously published, and will probably leave Hongkong on Friday at noon for Shanghai.

VOTES FOR WOMEN IN TOKYO.

Effect of New Regulations.

The Tokyo Municipal and ward assembly elections are to be held shortly in accordance with the new Municipal Regulations for cities, towns, and villages. These new Regulations provide that any person, who is not qualified as a citizen (komin), who pays in direct municipal taxation more than is paid by one of the three highest taxpayers of a city, town, or village, is entitled to vote as elector of members of the Municipal Assembly.

Various opinions are current as to the proper interpretation of this provision of the law. The "Osaka Mainichi" states that according to the interpretation of the Home Department, any person who pays such a high tax, even if not qualified as a citizen under Article 9 of the Municipal Regulation for cities, towns, and villages, will be entitled to vote. The reason for the Government's special granting the vote to the highest taxpayers is the recognition of the great interests such rate-payers have in the public affairs of a city, town, or village, as the higher the amount of the tax paid, the greater becomes his interest. Coming under this category, even a woman is entitled to vote in the election of members of the Municipal Assembly, and there are few judges in Tokyo, who claim votes under this provision. One is Mrs. Minajima Koko, proprietress of the Owaraya Bank, Motomachi-cho, and the other is Mrs. Kajima Nobuko, who owns the Kajimaya Sake Store, Yokochi-cho.—"Japan Chronicle."

OILFIELDS AT HOME.

Important Discovery in Isle of Skye.

The announcement that oil-bearing shale had been discovered in the Isle of Skye and in the neighbouring island of Raasay was recently received with doubt, but now the director of the Geological Survey has made a definite statement on the subject in "Nature." It appears from his account that the discovery of this layer of oil-bearing rock was made by Dr. G. W. Lee, who reported it as being part of what is known as the "Torridonian" formation which had been lying at one time beneath some 2,400 ft. of basalt, and another 2,000 ft. of limestone and sandstone. Some oil-springs or other in past times had filled up the whole of the rocks until their edges now show to be a sort of the surface of the rock.

The oil-springs are to be found at a depth of 100 ft. north of Portree, over 100 ft. from the shore, and are situated in a line with the shore. The oil-springs are to be found at a depth of 100 ft. north of Portree, over 100 ft. from the shore, and are situated in a line with the shore.

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THE PIRACY AT KONGMOON.

FURTHER DETAILS.

With reference to the piracy at Kongmoon, which was reported in Monday's "China Mail," a correspondent sends us the following account—

"We often read of native passage boats being pirated as they ply to and from Canton to other inland cities, but the reality of the experience only becomes patent to us when we have to pass through it ourselves. This unfortunately was the experience of the Rev. and Mrs. Scholes on Saturday last. They were, we believe, travelling with a view to paying the usual autumn visits to some of the Mission Stations, connected with the Wesleyan Mission, having left Hongkong on Friday evening. They transferred themselves to the ordinary passage boat at Kongmoon on Saturday morning, and all went well till the boat reached a point about halfway between Kongmoon and Kungyik. Suddenly Mr. and Mrs. Scholes heard a volley of rifle shooting, and there were shouts along the passage boat 'down on your faces! lie on your faces!' These rifle shots came from the shore. Suddenly, there darted out from the bank one of those swift long boats that the Chinese handle so well, and the fight began between the soldiers on the launch that towed the passage boat, and the pirates in the approaching craft. How many of them were hit is not known, but they managed to get hold of the launch and so got on board. Armed with revolvers, they spread themselves over the passage boat, and immediately terrorized everyone on board. They dashed into the small room where Mr. and Mrs. Scholes were, and harshly demanded them to give up everything they had, or they would have to forfeit their lives. They were in a great hurry, and so did not do things very effectively. For example, the robbery took off the wedding ring from Mrs. Scholes' finger, but a brooch she wore they did not observe. They appeared to be no wish to inflict bodily harm, if the pirates could get what they sought without resorting to bloodshed. Mr. and Mrs. Scholes lost everything valuable they had, except this brooch. Fortunately, they did not take much money with them. It appears that the real bait that tempted the pirates was a sum of \$7,000 rumoured to be on board. It seems also that it was on board, and that the owner lost it. The man who possessed this large sum looked like the commonest coolie, and if one suspected from his looks that he was a rich man one must be more clever at reading Chinese character than most foreigners are. However, the robbers were too clever to be deceived, and they immediately seized upon a poor looking box the man had, and exclaimed 'there is silver here for it is heavy,' and threw it into their own boat. There are side-lights too of interest at such times. A man was seen working hard to get the head of an old broom. Then he was seen working equally hard to get it on again. What transpired was, that as soon as he knew his pirates would be able to get on board he knocked the head of the broom, hid a very valuable ring in his pocket, replaced the handle, and after the pirates went took the ring out and boasted of his ingenuity. The pirates managed to carry off it was estimated, about \$10,000, but did not pay much attention to the passengers' baggage. They were too hurried. This is the second outrage against foreigners perpetrated lately."

The Japanese Government has provisionally acquired from China the right to start a kerosene enterprise in Shensi Province. According to the "Jiji," Mr. Yamazaki, Japanese Minister in Peking, in compliance with the request of the Japanese naval authorities, who have decided to use kerosene as fuel, recently approached President Yuan Shih-kai with a proposal to acquire the right of sinking kerosene wells in Shensi Province, where oil is said to be inexhaustible. In view of the fact that the Standard Oil Company, which two years ago attempted to secure similar rights in the same province, has discontinued negotiations with the Peking Government, on account of the agitation raised by the people of the province, the President immediately gave his consent to Japan's proposal. A contract has not yet been signed, but it is stated there is no risk of any protest being raised by the United States and other countries. In starting the kerosene enterprise in the province the Japanese Government will have to put \$500,000 as large money to China, and it is understood that ten per cent of the sum will be advanced during the first year. The contract will be carried out by the Chinese Kiangsu Kiangsu (Kiangsu) Company, which is a joint venture of the Japanese and Chinese Governments. The contract will be carried out by the Chinese Kiangsu Kiangsu (Kiangsu) Company, which is a joint venture of the Japanese and Chinese Governments.

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